

CLAIMS

1. A method for producing a metallized image on a sheet material, said method consisting in applying a metal onto the sheet material and exposing it at specified points to a means that provides their fixation at said points, the method being characterized by applying a solution containing a salt of the metal onto the sheet material and impregnating the sheet material with said solution, causing extraction of the metal from the solution at the specified points of a surface of the sheet material, and forming an image from a combination of said metallized points.

2. A method according to claim 1, characterized by causing the extraction of the metal from the solution by electromagnetic radiation pulses which are focused on the specified points of the sheet material surface.

3. A method according to claim 2, characterized in that the electromagnetic radiation pulses reduce, in the solution, metal ions to the metal and deposit said metal at the specified points of the sheet material.

4. A method according to claim 3, characterized by limiting a duration and an energy of the electromagnetic radiation pulses to values at which said radiation is unable to burn the sheet material through.

5. A method according to claim 4, characterized by forming recesses in the sheet material under action of the electromagnetic radiation pulses, depositing the metal from the solution at their bottoms, and forming an image from a combination of metallized points deepened into the body of the sheet material.

6. A method according to claim 1, characterized by preparing a solution in which salts of several metals are present, depositing simultaneously all the metals present in the solution therefrom at each of the specified points of the sheet material, and forming either metal alloys or doped metals at said points.

7. A method according to claim 5, characterized by using laser radiation pulses as the electromagnetic radiation pulses.

8. A device for applying a metallized image onto a sheet material, said device comprising a means positioned in front of the sheet material for applying a metal onto the sheet material and a means for fixing the metal to the sheet material at specified points, said device being characterized in that the means for applying the metal onto the sheet material is made as a reservoir with a solution containing a salt of the metal and as a fixture for impregnating the sheet material with said solution, and the means for fixing the metal to the sheet material is made as a generator of laser radiation pulses and as a unit for focusing said

pulses on specified points at a surface of the sheet material to extract the metal from the solution at said points.